REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Response is filed in reply to the Office action dated July 28, 2006. No claims are amended or cancelled. Accordingly, after entry of this Response, claims 1-23 will remain pending.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-20 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,549,944 to Weinberg et al. (hereinafter "Weinberg") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,012,090 to Chung et al. (hereinafter "Chung"). This rejection is respectfully traversed because a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established.

A proper prima facie obviousness rejection must 1) provide a suggestion or motivation to modify the prior art reference or combine the reference teachings; 2) there must be a reasonable expectation of success; and 3) the combined references must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations. See MPEP § 2143. It is respectfully submitted that the combined references do not teach all of the claim limitations of the present invention.

Initially, independent claims 1, 4, 11 and 17 are addressed. Each of these claims includes the limitation of "providing a web page with a first and second embedded software facility, said first embedded software facility including a reference to a source of computer-executable code for determining a trust proxy setting in a web browser." That is, the web page forwarded to the web browser includes a source of computer-executable code, such as an applet, for determining the trust proxy setting in the web browser.

The Examiner cites Chung as disclosing a trust proxy. However, Chung discloses a system for making client-side parallel requests for network services by issuing requests to multiple similar web sites to provide high availability web access. That is, the user can group URLs or other service identifiers that provide similar information together under a user selected group name. Chung discloses the use of access and registration applets which may be written in Java and embedded in the browser program to provide such functionality (see Chung, column 5, lines 6-27). Chung's registration applets do not determine the trust proxy setting in the web browser. Moreover, the access and registration applets are not an embedded software facility of a web page. Therefore, the combination of Weinberg with Chung provides no teaching or suggestion of providing a web page which includes a reference to computer-executable code for determining a trust proxy setting in a web browser as required by the independent claims 1, 4, 11 and 17. For at least the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 4, 11 and 17 are patentable over Weinberg in view of Chung and such indication is respectfully requested.

The remaining rejected claims 2, 3, 5-10, 12-16 and 18-20 all depend, directly or indirectly, from one of independent claims 1, 4, 11 and 17. Accordingly, these dependent

claims are themselves patentable over Weinberg in view of Chung for at least the reasons set forth above and such indication is respectfully requested. This statement is made without reference to or waiving the independent bases of patentability within each dependent claim.

II. Rejection of Claims 3, 10, 19 and 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 3, 10, 19 and 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weinberg and Chung further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,035, 332 to Ingrassia, Jr. et al. (hereinafter "Ingrassia"). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claims 3, 10 and 19 depend from independent claims 1, 4 and 17, respectively. As discussed above, independent claims 1, 4, and 17 have the limitation "providing a web page with a first and second embedded software facility, said first embedded software facility including a reference to a source of computer-executable code for determining a trust proxy setting in a web browser." Independent claim 21 includes a similar limitation of "providing a first web page with a first embedded software facility, said first embedded software facility including a reference to a source of computer-executable code for determining a trust proxy setting in a web browser." The Examiner cites Chung as disclosing a trust proxy. As previously discussed above, Chung does not teach or suggest providing a web page with an embedded software facility that includes a reference to a source of computer-executable code for determining a trust proxy setting in a web as required by independent claims 1, 4, 17 and 21.

Ingrassia is cited to provide teachings for the limitations recited in dependent claims, and the limitation of a second web page with a second embedded software facility including a reference to a source of computer-executable code. Although Ingrassia teaches tracking user activities on a web page, Ingrassia does not teach a web page with a software facility including a reference to a source of computer-executable code for determining a trust proxy setting in the web browser. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 4, 17 and 21 are patentable over Weinberg and Chung further in view of Ingrassia and such indication is respectfully requested. The remaining rejected claims 3, 10, 19 and 22-23 all depend, either directly or indirectly, from one of the independent claims 1, 4, 17 and 21. Accordingly, these dependent claims are themselves patentable over the cited references for the same reasons as the independent claims and such indication is respectfully requested.

III. Rejection of Claims 6, 7, 14 and 15 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 6, 7, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weinberg, Chung, and Ingrassia further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,366, 949 to Hubert (hereinafter "Hubert"). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claims 6, 7, 14 and 15 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claims 4 and 11. Hubert is cited by the Examiner to provide teachings for the limitations recited in the dependent claims. Hubert does not teach or suggest the limitation of "retrieving a web page with said web browser, said web page including a first and second software facility stored therein, said first software facility including a reference to a source of computer-executable code for determining a trust proxy setting in said web browser" as required by independent claim 4 or the limitation "providing a first applet and second applet stored on a web page accessible over said network, said first applet including a reference to a source of computer-executable code for determining a trust proxy setting in said web browser" as required by independent claim 11.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 4 and 11 are patentable over Weinberg, Chung and Ingrassia further in view of Hubert. Dependent claims 6, 7, 14 and 15 are therefore themselves patentable over Weinberg, Chung and Ingrassia further in view of Hubert for the same reasons as independent claims 4 and 11 and such indication is respectfully requested.
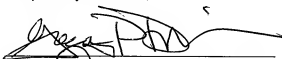
IV. Conclusion

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for his thorough review of the application. The Applicant respectfully submits the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the issuance of a Notice of Allowability as soon as practicable.

This Amendment is submitted contemporaneously with a petition for a one-month extension of time in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.136(a). Accordingly, please charge Deposit Account No. 04-1415 in the amount of $120.00, for a one-month extension of time fee. The Applicant believes no further fees or petitions are required. However, if any such petitions or fees are necessary, please consider this a request therefor and authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1415 accordingly.

If the Examiner should require any additional information or amendment, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated: _28 November 2006_

Respectfully submitted,

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